

## LINE OF BATTLE IS FOUR HUNDRED MILES LONG

## ITALIAN RETREAT IS NOT SURPRISE

Situation is Such as Not to Depend on Withdrawal of Troops at Some Points.

## VERDUN IS RATHER CALM

French Succeed in Getting Back Some of Their Trenches in Latest Fighting.

ROME, May 26.—The retreat of the Italians on a portion of the Trentino front has not caused any pessimism in official circles here. It is pointed out that the entire line of battle is 400 miles long and that there need be no surprise that there should be withdrawals at some points under overwhelming pressure.

The fact that the Austrians now hold a small mountainous section of Italian territory is considered of small importance when compared with the fifteen times greater territory occupied by the Italians in Austria. It is considered that if the enemy continues to advance the conditions which have favored him hitherto will be reversed as the farther he gets from his base of operations the more difficult it will be to supply ammunition for his heavy artillery. On the other hand the Italians will enjoy the advantage of having good roads, four main railways and inexhaustible reserves available at their immediate rear.

These considerations are independent of the natural obstacles which make the Austro-Italian front so different from that at Verdun.

An official statement has been issued stating that it is impossible to limit the war to trench fighting in a region like the Trentino where large masses of troops can be easily transferred from one point to another without weakening any section of the front.

## VERDUN FRONT SITUATION UNDERGOES LITTLE CHANGE

PARIS, May 26.—There has been little change in the situation on the Verdun front, says the statement issued by the war office today.

The artillery bombardment was very violent about Avocourt wood and Dead Man hill. At the latter place a German attack was stopped by the French curtain of fire at its inception.

On the right bank of the Meuse the French succeeded in recovering part of the trenches occupied Thursday by the Germans between Haumont wood and Thiaumont farm. Otherwise the battle front was calm.

## EXCEPTIONAL ACTIVITY AT SALONIKI IS SHOWN

ATHENS, May 26.—Exceptional military activity at Saloniki is believed here to portend developments of great importance.

General Howell, chief of the British staff, and other officers of the Allies who have been on leave in Athens, have been recalled suddenly.

## WAITE'S STORY

Is Crowded with Horrors Unparalleled in History of New York Criminal Trials.

NEW YORK, May 26.—Could a sane man commit the series of crimes confessed by Dr. Arthur Warren Waite?

This question confronts the jury today in the Peck murder case. The young dentist left the witness stand last night after five hours and forty-five minutes crowded with horrors unparalleled in the history of New York criminal trials. Every detail of his story was noted by the alienists engaged by the defense for use in framing the hypothetical question they will be called to answer before Waite's attorneys ask the jury to decide whether he was mentally responsible when he killed his father-in-law, John E. Peck.

Taylor Ward was here Friday from Peck Tree.

## TWO MEXICANS KILLED IN A SURPRISE ATTACK

On a Detachment of American Engineers Engaged in Repairing Motor Track.

FIELD HEADQUARTERS, NEAR NAMIQUEPA, via radio to Columbus, N. M., May 26.—Candelario Cervantes, the Villa bandit, was killed by American troops south of Cruces today.

Another Mexican, Jose Bernome, and an American were killed. Two Americans were wounded. Cervantes' band came after he had made a surprise attack south of Cruces on a detachment of engineers repairing the motor track road. He was beaten back and pursued into the hills by the engineers who had been reinforced by a detachment of the Seventeenth Infantry.

## LARGEST AUDITORIUM HAS TO BE ENGAGED.

Owing to the fact that the court house was considered entirely too small to house the mammoth crowd of citizens that will turn out to hear Judge Ira E. Robinson, of Grafton, speak in behalf of his candidacy for the Republican nomination for governor Monday night, the Robinson grand theater, which is the largest auditorium in the city, has been engaged for the meeting instead.

Arrangements have been made with Claude Robinson, manager of the theater, to have his Paramount picture service suspended all day Monday, so that the theater may be used the entire day for the great meeting and the preparations for it.

The meeting will begin at 8 p. m. sharp.

## COLORED DOCTOR

Who Was Convicted of a White Slavery Charge Files Plea in Abatement.

Eugene L. Young, a colored doctor, who a year or more ago was arrested on a white slavery charge for having taken a colored girl of this city to Marietta, O., and was convicted in federal court, the case having been appealed to the United States circuit court of appeals, which latter court set the verdict of the jury and the sentence of three years imposed by Judge Dayton, is again on trial this week at Philippi. Word was received here today that his attorneys have filed a plea in abatement, claiming a flaw in some of the proceedings, and the records have been forwarded for use of the government in the case.

## THREE INJURED

When Taxi Skids on West Milford Road and Goes over Embankment.

When a five-passenger Overland touring car owned by George Biglow, colored, and driven by Sanford Lewis, colored, and used for a taxi, skidded at Turner's bend on the West Milford road Thursday night on account of the soft condition caused by the rain, two white girls who were passengers in the car, and Lewis, the driver, were painfully injured.

The girls were being driven to West Milford by Lewis and as the car approached Turner's bend it began to skid, and before the driver could get control of the machine it had left the road and crashed over an embankment near the roadside. Flying glass caused the injuries of all in the car. The girls' names could not be learned Friday, but it is not thought that they were seriously injured.

## FAINT

Do National Guard Members While Waiting in Line to Be Inoculated.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., May 26.—Members of the Texas national guard, who have been impatient at the delay in being ordered to duty along the Mexican border, have fainted in large numbers while waiting in line to be inoculated with anti-typhoid virus.

"Psychological phenomenon," remarked one army surgeon today. Further than that no one knows accurately why militiamen and regulars as well, who often later distinguish themselves in action, should be overcome at the prospect of undergoing a treatment characterized by no pain and no ugly spilling of blood.

## Southern Very Finely Fitted for Prosecutor



John C. Southern.

Ten years of law practice in state and federal courts is the professional record of John C. Southern, who is a Republican candidate for prosecuting attorney of Harrison county. That practice has been highly successful and his law business today is of a magnitude and character even lawyers longer in practice would be proud to have.

Mr. Southern has ever appreciated the fact that a straightforward course is the only true road to success and he has always put that appreciation into practice, not preaching something he does not practice. Such course has brought full reward, namely, highest respect and regard by his fellows in the legal fraternity and a widespread confidence among the people which has augmented his practice from year to year until he commands a clientele, the character and size of which no lawyer need be ashamed of.

Always diligent and industrious, ever studious and researchful, constantly reaching out for educational and professional improvement, Mr. Southern has so thoroughly applied his time and talents as to go before any court however high with able and correct presentation of the cases he has in hand at the time, and opposing counsel know that they are meeting a man worthy of their steel, a lawyer who fights long and hard, one who turns every legitimate stone and never gives up. They find in him an able advocate, a powerful pleader, a courageous and effective debater.

Long experience in his profession along with other activities in life gives Mr. Southern a broad mental grasp of the criminal statutes of the state, whose interpretation and enforcement he largely with the prosecuting attorney, who by virtue of law is the county's representative of the people, an official whose sworn duty it is to see that the law is upheld for the people collectively but whose duty it also is to see that the individual member of society is not unjustly accused or undeservingly punished. The duties of the prosecuting attorney are well defined by law, which is as plain as a b c and no man with the conscience and principle of John C. Southern can err in its interpretation. A man of his steadfastness of honorable purpose and fairness of reasoning and feeling can not and will not misconstrue the duties of prosecuting attorney as those to suit whims, prejudices or the drunkenness of power.

Harrison county grows in importance day by day as its population grows larger and the work and responsibility of the prosecuting attorney correspondingly increase. Complete equipment and thorough fitness for the office, therefore, become imperative, and truly such equipment and fitness are to be found to a perfect degree in John C. Southern. He measures up to the full requirements, and under him the record of the office of prosecuting attorney of Harrison county will advance until it eclipses the record of the past, and certainly so far overshadows the present record as to bury it in deepest oblivion.

Mr. Southern could not have attained his splendid success in his chosen profession if he had not so admirably prepared himself in his boyhood and young manhood. His public school record was a proud one, leading as he did in his classes all the time. Following this up, he established another fine record as a student at Broadus Institute from which he was graduated with high honors in 1904. He immediately entered the West Virginia University at Morgantown to complete his schooling and prepare himself for his profession, and he was graduated from the law school at that institution in 1906, following which he immediately began the practice of law here.

Born October 17, 1884, he is in his thirty-second year, is at that age where his faculties are keenest and best, and it is certainly not amiss to state that a man at that age may be counted on to make their best application as ambition for the future and the desire to make a fine record are uppermost then in a man's soul.

Mr. Southern stands alone in one notable particular in this campaign as a one-term candidate. This fact is worthy of note, and it will doubtless commend itself to many voters, especially to those who believe new faces in public office are frequently conducive to the best public service. The campaign as waged by him has been honorable and fair. He has been open and above board in all he has done to further his campaign. He has spoken no word of reflection on rival candidates. He has held aloof from all factional alliances, simply running on the Republican ticket as if there were no combinations of any kind, indeed if there be any. He pledges himself to do his duty as his oath will require and to be conscientious, reasonable and fair in all his official acts.

A vote for Southern means that the one who casts it believes in and wants the laws of the land enforced and public order maintained. His nomination will add strength to the ticket and his election will mean efficient service and orderly government.

## America Confronted With Grave Questions Declares Judge Gary

And He Says Government and Business Men Should Work in Harmony on Them.

NEW YORK, May 26.—Declaring that the United States was rapidly becoming the leader among the nations of the world and that it was "high time for every one to understand that a large majority of the people of the United States will insist upon the utilization of every facility to protect and to honorably further the interests of their own country," Judge Elbert H. Gary spoke here today at the annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute on what he considered "momentous questions."

"There are now confronting the people of this country," he said, "certain momentous questions. They involve life, liberty and happiness. They are under discussion by the most talented writers and speakers and they are in the thoughts and mouths of the multitudes. It is likely opportunity will be given to the voters to give expression to their

views in the near future relating to some of these questions. The large majority have a friendly feeling toward business success, large or small, so long as it is decently and fairly conducted.

"We believe thoroughly in the regulation and restraint of business in such a way as to prevent harm and injury to the public interest; but we do not agree that the proper way to prevent harm is to destroy the agencies which may be and generally are utilized for the promotion of good.

"The government and the business men should work in harmony with reference to these matters.

"Our export business is large and increasing. The total exports for March of this year were \$411,478,633 in value, an increase of \$114,864,745 over March, 1915. The total for the nine months ending March 31, was \$2,997,172,472, an increase of \$1,066,094,603 over the total for the same period of the preceding year.

"The markets of the world are multiplying in number and increasing in importance. We are hoping for open ports in every country. We

have not heretofore had our proportionate share of this trade. One reason for the limited amount of our export business in the past is found in the lack of ships owned, controlled and operated by Americans. We have been more or less subjected to the domination of foreigners having the ownership of control of ships and who are interested directly or indirectly in business competing with us.

"When the present wars are ended these conditions will be even worse than they have ever been before unless there are adopted laws or amendments that will place our merchant marine practically on an equality with that of other nations.

"We are in favor of peace for our nation; not at any price, but we would if necessary, pay liberally for it. We would fight any other nation, but only defensively. However, we do not wish for war and we believe it is not necessary to engage in it with any European nation or nations.

"So anxious are our people to avoid trouble and to maintain a peace footing, they are willing to submit, temporarily, and until the minds of hot heads have had time to become cool and collected, to many acts seemingly unfriendly and even to sneers and insults, before they will assume an offensive attitude and run the risk of precipitating a war unnecessarily. This is a strong statement but it represents the real attitude of a large majority of our people. They sincerely believe we shall get through and come out of the apparent shadows of doubt and distrust, the clouds of gloom that at times have been very black and threatening, without war and with the respect and confidence of all the European nations. We desire to have our administration at Washington maintain a strictly neutral attitude concerning the belligerent nations. When the war is over—and may a merciful Providence speed the day—we wish to be on terms of intimate and cordial relations with them all.

"If the United States is to assume and maintain the important position among nations that has been thrust upon her, she must be possessed of the same elements of power and strength that others have. She must be prepared to protect her commerce on the seas. She must be ready to support other nations in the insistence that the ports of all foreign friendly nations shall remain free and open to all. And even more important to consider, we would be able to exert a powerful influence in aiding and even compelling international peace."

In closing, Judge Gary said: "There is not intended to be nor is there any question of politics involved in what has been said, notwithstanding there may be differences of opinion held by persons of different political parties concerning some of the points discussed. It is believed a strong and dominant public sentiment will bring about a regard for honest business success, beneficial to all the people of this country, and necessary laws and administration of laws to promote and protect it; the maintenance of permanent peace, industrial as well as social; and the sufficient preparedness to insure both.

"The steel industry is good; better than ever before. There have recently been publications to the effect that there is a falling off in new orders and this may be true to a slight extent, but the daily bookings generally are larger in volume than the total producing capacity, and as the unfinished orders on hand are sufficient to keep the mills busy for the remainder of this calendar year and a large portion of 1917 there is not much, if any, cause for concern on the part of manufacturers for the next twelve months at least.

"We could hope that we had been permitted to continue co-operation on a basis that could have induced greater stability in prices, higher in times of depression and lower in times of great activity, for it would have been satisfactory and beneficial to both producer and consumer and to their employees; but circumstances, over which we had no control, brought about a change in this particular. Public sentiment may bring about a restoration of the former and better methods. Who can tell?"

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## FARMERS' DAY

Will Be Observed at Simpson June 1 with Some Good Speaking.

In response to the request of quite a number of farmers an all-day meeting especially for country people has been arranged for Thursday, June 1, at Simpson. It is hoped that a large crowd will take advantage of this opportunity of discussing and hearing problems concerning country life discussed. It is believed that this meeting will be both profitable and enjoyable. In order to make the meeting the greatest success possible, much time and effort has been put forth towards securing the best speakers possible for this occasion.

It is announced that Prof. M. J. Abbey, of the West Virginia University, a very pleasing and profitable speaker, will be present and deliver two addresses. The subject of his address before noon will be "Wastes on the Farm." In the afternoon Prof. Abbey will speak on "Country Welfare." Dr. Richard Aspinall, of West Virginia Wesleyan College, will address the audience on "Some Contributions of England to Agriculture and Education." The Rev. Mr. Hamrick and others will speak also. Some special features will probably be arranged to entertain the audience.

## LEAGUE IS NOT TO URGE PEACE STEP

## MINERS

Numbering More Than 600 Hear Judge Ira E. Robinson Speak.

CHARLESTON, May 26.—More than 600 miners turned out at Cedar Grove last night to welcome Judge Ira E. Robinson, candidate for the Republican nomination for governor, and express their allegiance to the man who as judge of the supreme court stood loyal to them during the troubles in the Cabin creek and Paint creek industrial wars. Cedar Grove is in the heart of the Cabin creek coal field. The ovation given the distinguished jurist bespeaked eloquently the bond of affection existing between the men and the noted candidate. Charles J. Schuck, of Wheeling, also spoke. The meeting was presided over by M. E. Dixon, mayor of Cedar Grove.

Another most stirring meeting was addressed yesterday afternoon at Elk View by the judge. The enormous crowd and enthusiasm at both meetings together with the unprecedented demonstration here last night prove conclusively that Judge Robinson will carry Kanawha county by a tremendous majority.

## CLOSING SCHEDULE

Of the Water Street Colored School First Week in June is Announced.

The year's work of the Water street colored school will close with the following exercises:

Examinations will be held Monday and Wednesday for all grades, promotions for grades from first to seventh inclusive will be made on Friday, June 2. The sermon to the class will be delivered Sunday, June 4 at 2 o'clock at the Water street school auditorium by the Rev. J. S. Carroll, pastor of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church.

Commencement exercises will be Monday evening, June 5 at the school auditorium. The address to the class and to the public will be delivered by Dean Pickens, of Morgan College, Baltimore, Md.

Eighth grade and high school promotions will be given out Tuesday morning, June 6.

## WOODMEN

Of Three States Are to Hold Their Encampment at Parkersburg in August.

The holding of the tri-state encampment of the Woodmen of the World in Parkersburg is now assured. The dates were announced today to include five days from August 14 to 19. The uniform rank of the three states, West Virginia, Virginia and Maryland, will be there for the biennial encampment, which will include about 2,000 uniformed Woodmen. In addition to these it is expected that several hundred Woodmen from other cities who are not now members of the uniform rank will be present to witness their maneuvers, and to take part in the meeting.

## MAYOR MITCHELL DEFENDS COUNCIL

Council Favors Trolley Line Extension but It Must Be According to Franchise.

Mayor D. L. Mitchell of Stealey Heights, issued the following statement Friday:

At a meeting of the common council of Stealey Heights, Guy H. Burnside presented on the spur of the moment a carefully worded two-page typewritten matter, what he calls an "invitation" for the street car company to extend its lines in the town of Stealey Heights, to be passed by the common council and made a matter of record and the mayor and recorder signing same and attaching thereto the town seal, regardless of what legal effect or privileges the said "invitation" might carry with it, notwithstanding the franchise the town of Stealey Heights granted to the street car company a few years ago. This invitation was properly referred to the proper committee for consideration and upon report of this committee the common council of Stealey Heights decided not to grant the invitation as requested by Attorney Burnside.

Mayor D. L. Mitchell in his instructions and explanations before the common council, plain, just and strictly based upon solid business principles, said in part:

"In matters of this kind the mode of inducing a public utility corporation to further grant or extend its ways of convenience and accommodations to the citizens of a municipality is not by asking a city council to grant or do acts which in its opinion are unjust and not the thing to

To Be Taken in the European War Declares Taft, President of the League.

## WORLD COURT IS PLANNED

Former President in Address at Convention Explains Points in League's Mission.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—The object of the League to Enforce Peace is not to urge President Wilson to take steps to stop the present war, former President Taft, president of the league, declared today in opening its two-day session here.

The acceptance of membership by the United States in a world court in which the joint powers would use their armed and economic forces to enforce its decrees in the interest of peace was charged by Mr. Taft. His speech was closely confined to the technical, legal questions involved in the acceptance of membership by the United States in such an international tribunal. He denied that such action would curtail the power of either the president or Congress by limiting the constitutional discretion of the latter body to declare war.

Mr. Taft explained that the league's platform proposes compulsory submission to the world court of an international dispute not settled by diplomatic negotiations and which are "justiciable" questions.

Referring to the so-called Bryan peace treaties with England and France Mr. Taft said it was argued that the arbitration stipulation in them was a delegation of the authority of the president and Senate over our foreign relations.

"But upon reason and authority this objection is untenable," said Mr. Taft.

"Turning to the question of a duty of a nation belonging to the world court to use its army and navy in enforcing its decrees upon other members that should go to war in defiance of the court's decrees, Mr. Taft took issue with former Secretary of State Bryan regarding Mr. Bryan's contention that a constitutional amendment would be necessary before the United States could obligate itself in this respect.

"Mr. Bryan declared that in order to carry out the provisions of the constitution we must have a joint council of the powers to determine when the time has arrived for military action and war," said Mr. Taft, "and that this would substitute the action of the council for the discretion of Congress. I venture to think that this view is wholly without foundation. If the war is a foreign war it could not be begun under the constitution until Congress had declared war. We impose in a constitutional way by treaty an obligation on Congress it does not take away its power to discharge it or to refuse to discharge it."

## MRS. LANGDON TAKEN HOME.

Mrs. Roscoe Langdon, who for two weeks was a patient at St. Mary's hospital, has been taken to her home. Her many friends hope that she will speedily recover.

## TO VISIT ENTERPRISE LODGE.

O. W. West, of Auburn, grand chancellor of the West Virginia Knights of Pythias, was in the city Friday on the way from his home to Enterprise, where he will pay an official visit to Big Elm lodge of the order there the same night.